

**BOROUGH OF ELIZABETH
MEETING OF COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 23, 2021
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

President Rager called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Rager led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present – Mr. Rager, Mr. Miklos, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Guffey and Mrs. Turner

Also Present – Mayor Boucher, Solicitor Krisha DiMascio, Chief Sombo, and Secretary Jean Warren

Absent – Mrs. Gephart and Mr. Shaner

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Executive sessions were held on November 17, 2021 and November 23, 2021 to discuss personnel issues.

VISITORS

None

COMMENTS ON AGENDA

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to accept the minutes of the October 20, 2021 Workshop Meeting and October 26, 2021 Council Meeting:

- Motion – Mr. Guffey
- Second – Mr. Miklos
- Voice Vote - All in Favor

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Motion to pay the bills as presented:

- Motion – Mr. Guffey
- Second – Mrs. Turner
- Roll Call Vote – All in Favor

REPORTS

Mayor

The Mayor reported the police department is low on manpower and they have reached out to Forward Township for assistance. He also reported there have been discussions regarding hiring a full-time officer. Mayor Boucher stated there were no problems during Trick-or-Treat and that the meters will be free for the Christmas holiday.

Treasurer

No report.

Chief of Police

Chief Sombo stated he turned in his report to Council and that the steps under the bridge have been cleaned up.

Solicitor

Mrs. DiMascio opened the only trash collection bid received, which was from Westmoreland Sanitary Landfill, LLC. She noted the costs as follows:

Year 1	\$16.30
Year 2	\$16.79
Year 3	\$17.29

And noted that prices were provided for Years 4-6 as option years; and that all documents were in order.

Building Inspector

Mr. Rager reported that a meeting was held with Mr. Reis.

Animal Control

Chief Sombo reported everything has been quiet and that the contract will need to be revisited.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Budget & Finance

Mrs. Morris reported the audit was presented at the workshop meeting and that the Borough is in a healthy financial position. She also reported that a presentation was held of the STMP, but the final report is not available yet. She said some of the highlights were the need to hire a full-time secretary or manager and that there are funds to assist if hiring a manager; codification of ordinances; and upgrading riverfront and entry signage.

Public Safety

No report.

Public Works

Mr. Miklos reported on the following items:

- The new dump truck has been ordered.
- Plum Street lights are working and they are moving to work on Market Street next.
- The parts of not available for the generator at the Borough Building and may need bid out to replace it. Mr. Rager stated it needs regular service and it was recommended by Chief Sombo to contact Moses Electric.
- The dehumidifier was installed at the Borough Building.
- The two bar locks were purchased.
- The memorial needs permanent repairs.
- A public works department report was not available.
- The paving was completed and 8th and the 2nd/3rd Avenue turnaround.
- Thanked the public works department for doing a good job on the lights and tree.
- That the EBMA plans to raise rates for 2022.

Parks & Recreation

Mr. Miklos reported Elizabeth Electric is going to install solar lights to brighten the court.

Mrs. Morris reported the neighbors like the new lights.

Mr. Rager reported he has looked into a PA matching grant for work at the boat launch to include reseal and stripe lots, trees, and landscaping.

Ordinance

No report.

Personnel

Mr. Guffey stated that are motions on the agenda.

Economic Development

Mr. Rager discussed the Corps of Engineers project which is estimated to cost \$2.4-\$2.5 million. He stated he contacted the PA DCNR to discuss adding a barge to the walkway and they will meet in early January. He stated that a \$3 million grant is possible.

Planning

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

- Motion to authorize the Secretary to pay \$25,000 to First Commonwealth Bank for the final payment of the TAN:
 - Motion – Mrs. Morris
 - Second – Mr. Guffey
 - Roll Call Vote – All in Favor
- Motion to authorize applying for a \$100,000 TAN for 2022:
 - Motion – Mrs. Morris
 - Second – Mr. Guffey
 - Roll Call Vote – All in Favor
- Motion to authorize the Secretary to advertise the preliminary 2022 budget:
 - Motion – Mr. Miklos
 - Second – Mrs. Turner
 - Voice Vote – All in Favor
- Motion to accept the resignation of Robert Ferry as a part-time police officer effective October 25, 2021:
 - Motion – Mr. Guffey
 - Second – Mr. Miklos
 - Voice Vote – All in Favor
- Motion to accept the lowest responsible bid for 2022 trash service from Westmoreland Sanitary Landfill, LLC and enter a three-year contract:
 - Motion – Mr. Guffey
 - Second – Mrs. Morris
 - Roll Call vote – All in Favor
- Motion to accept the 2020 audit as presented by Mark Turnley:
 - Motion – Mr. Guffey
 - Second – Mrs. Morris
 - Roll Call Vote – All in Favor
- Motion to authorize the Secretary to advertise for a full-time secretary or manager:
 - Motion – Mr. Guffey
 - Second – Mrs. Morris
 - Roll Call Vote – All in Favor
- Motion to accept the bid of Pugliano Construction Co., Inc. for \$69,949 for Plum Street Improvements Phase 7 using a \$50,000 grant:
 - Motion – Mr. Guffey
 - Second – Mrs. Turner
 - Roll Call Vote – All in Favor
- Motion to accept and authorize execution of the agreement with the Corps of Engineers:
 - Motion – Mrs. Morris
 - Second – Mr. Miklos
 - Roll Call Vote – All in Favor
- Motion to accept and authorize execution of a memorandum of understanding with Teamsters Local Union No. 205 for amendments to the police contract, pending approval by the union:
 - Motion – Mrs. Morris
 - Second – Mr. Guffey

Roll Call Vote – All in Favor

- Motion to authorize repairs of \$571.92 to the 2007 Ford Truck at Greenwald Automotive:
 - Motion – Mr. Guffey
 - Second – Mrs. Morris
 - Roll Call Vote – All in Favor
- Motion to approve \$300 expense for parking meter signs, stickers, and coin chutes:
 - Motion – Mrs. Turner
 - Second – Mrs. Morris
 - Roll Call Vote – All in Favor
- Motion to authorize Glenn Engineering to prepare and submit a Flood Mitigation application:
 - Motion – Mr. Miklos
 - Second – Mrs. Morris
 - Roll Call Vote – All in Favor
- Motion to authorize the Secretary to advertise demolition hearings using CFA funds for December 28, 2021 at 6 p.m. Mrs. DiMascio mentioned that 124 Clay Street is in the process of sheriff sale by the school district:
 - Motion – Mr. Miklos
 - Second – Mr. Guffey
 - Roll Call Vote – All in Favor

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Discussion was held regarding appointments for board members that will be made at the reorganization meeting.

Mr. Rager thanked the EADC for the good job they did for light-up night. Mr. Ross said it was a wonderful night for the Borough.

ADJOURNMENT

- Motion – Mr. Guffey
- Voice Vote – All in Favor

COUNCIL HELD AN EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING PERSONNEL ISSUES